

## THE CHILD PREACHER.

The Remarkable Little Negro Who Preaches to Crowded Houses Wherever She Goes.

Special to the Daily Item.

FLORENCE, S. C., Sept. 2.

No doubt most of the readers of the *Item* have heard of the wonderful child preacher. The writer had the pleasure of hearing her preach at the colored Baptist Church of this city yesterday morning. The congregation was composed of both whites and negroes, and the church was crowded to its utmost capacity.

I made it a point to have a personal interview with the child. She told me that her name was Clara Nora Avery. She said, "I am nine years old and have been preaching for two years."

Where do you expect to go from here? I asked. "I will go out in the country to preach to-morrow and from there will go to Timmensville."

At 11 o'clock she stepped forward and gave out a hymn, after the singing of which she raised her hands and said, "Let us all pray."

Her prayer was well worded and delivered in a most earnest manner. She read as her lesson a part of John, xiv chap. Before taking her text she said, "Dear friends, we ask each and every one for your prayers."

Her text was taken from Revelation iii: 4-7, the which read thus:

"Thou hast a few names even in Sardis, which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy."

"He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels."

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

Her sermon as near as could be obtained was as follows:

"Dear friends, sisters and brothers, let us all come this morning and search our hearts. Our text shows us that God has a few names on this earth, who have clean hearts and undefiled garments."

"The Lord has a few people in Darlington, in Florence and everywhere, who are going to walk with Him in garments of white."

"It is not a 'so-called' Christian who is going to walk with God, but it is the pure in heart."

"We are glad to say this morning that the Lord has a few children, who will walk with Jesus in white, in the city of the New Jerusalem."

"If we are to walk with God we must hold our light up, we must live a Christian, if we want to die a Christian. No back-biters, no drunkards, no gamblers can walk with the Lamb of God."

"God bless your soul, go on," cried an old darkey.

"Christians, now is the chosen time to choose our place. Choose for God or the Devil, one."

"Jesus is better than the Devil!"

"If we choose for the Devil we make Hell our home. If we choose for Him we will live with Him. How sweet it is to say that we walk with the Lamb of God!"

It takes something to be a Christian (voice: "It's too honey").

"It is a sweet thing to have religion and be a child of God. If it were not for Jesus how could we get along. Let us cling close to the cross. When we are in trouble let us bow down on our knees and carry it to Jesus, and tell Him, 'Lord all I put on thee. Lord if I ever have been born again let me know it by what I have done.' (Voice: Do Jesus: Dat's it.)

"Oh! how sweet it is to be a Christian, to have a pure heart. No sin can enter the Kingdom. If there is any sin in our heart let us say: 'I bid you forever depart.'"

"We want to walk, so as to live with the Lamb of God together."

"When we get there we will sing a new song, we will cling close to the cross. I have got a father there, I have got a brother there and I will see them on that happy shore."

"God's commandments must be obeyed and we must obey. We must have the grace of God burning in our hearts. We must have the old time religion, if we want to walk with Capt. Jesus in white."

"None but the pure in heart shall get on the Gospel train. No second class on board. We shall all get on there and go on to Canaan's happy shore."

"We shall meet over there and wipe away every tear. If I never see you any more on earth, I will see you over there." ("Yes we will," cried a voice.) "We shall all about and give God glory on Canaan's happy shore."

"Oh! when Jesus is for us, who can be against us. Christians I will meet you there, for Heaven is my home in a few days. Meet me over there!"

"I want to tell you my religion but I can't tell you now; wait until I get on that happy shore. I mean to walk with the Lamb of God in white where there is no parting, and I want you all to meet me there."

At the close of her sermon the congregation sang:

"We will walk with Him in white in the New Jerusalem."

Throughout the whole sermon the "Little Preacher" was very composed. The shouting and innumerable exclamations did not effect her in the least. Her gestures were easy and graceful, and the earnestness with which she spoke was so impressive that it brought tears to the eyes of several white people in the audience.

Her sermon was wonderful, taking into consideration that it came from a little child. She did not display any reasoning powers but this can hardly be expected coming from a child of age.

M. D. H.

Did you Ever think that you cannot have good health without pure blood? Health comes by the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla, because it makes the blood pure.

## The Opening of the Sumter Tobacco Warehouse Successful Beyond Anticipations.

TWICE AS MUCH TOBACCO AS THE FLOOR WOULD HOLD.

Thirty Buyers and a Couple of Auctioneers--The Whole Town and a Part of Two Counties Out to See the Show--Sumter Leads and the Game Cock Crows Again.

From The Daily Item, August 29.

To-day the Sumter Tobacco Warehouse was opened and the "break" was successful beyond the most sanguine anticipations of those who have believed that Sumter was so situated that a tobacco warehouse would prove a success. To-day the croakers were converted and transformed into enthusiastic howlers for the Sumter Tobacco Warehouse.

The tobacco wagons were coming in all of yesterday afternoon and even when night had fallen the wagons still continued to arrive. This morning there were tobacco wagons in still greater numbers and long before the hour of sale there was twice as much tobacco on the warehouse yard as could be placed on the floor at one time. The tobacco growers of Sumter, Clarendon and other adjoining counties have rallied to the Sumter tobacco market handsomely, and if the sales do not reach a large total during the season it will not be the fault of the planters. They have given Sumter a chance to show what there is in this market, and it now remains for the Warehouse Company to do the rest. The planters are willing and anxious to come to Sumter, but they will do so only on the condition that they come on terms as advantageous as they obtain at other places. Self interest is the mainspring of humanity and tobacco planters are human. The sale this morning demonstrated that it is to the interest of all growers in this section to sell in Sumter, and it is safe to predict that the Sumter tobacco market has been established on as safe and firm a basis as possible in so short a time.

Manager Brogdon and his staff were at work this morning at 5 o'clock weighing the tobacco and arranging it on the floor, and they worked without intermission until the floor was studded with piles of the golden leaf from end to end and side to side. Not another pile could be placed on the floor, and then the sale began.

The sale was opened by Auctioneer W. B. Meacham, who will be here throughout the season. He has had thirty years experience and he knows just how to sell a pile of tobacco. He was assisted by Mr. John Reb. Drake, auctioneer for Smoot & McGill's warehouse in Darlington, who is a cryer from way back. Drake captured the crowd, none of whom had seen auctioneering done after that manner before. Even the small boy was amazed by the flexibility and untiring rapidity of his double-ended tongue. Said one to another: "Jes' listen! to that'er man; he talks two times faster than Uncle Jim Jervey."

The auctioneers were surrounded by a crowd of twenty-five or thirty buyers and the bidding was fast and furious. A pile of wrappers would be started at \$12.50 and in a minute would run up to \$25, \$30 and sometimes \$50, while the uninitiated were trying to grasp what was being done in the midst of so much confusion. And so the sale continued hour after hour.

The crowd of spectators was as much of a show as the sale was to them. Merchants, bankers, lawyers, physicians, preachers, mechanics and men of no trade or profession were there in such crowds that there was no vacant room left in any part of the house. The ladies were there in force and were among the most interested of the hundreds of spectators.

There were about 30,000 pounds of tobacco sold this morning and the sale will continue this afternoon when almost as much more will be sold. It is difficult to estimate how much will be sold to-day, as it will be impossible to sell all that is here, but the total will not be less than forty to fifty thousand pounds. There will probably be another sale to-morrow and if the tobacco that is expected arrives the second day's sale will be almost as large as to-day's. Sumter holds the record for a "break" in South Carolina, and Manager Brogdon and the Warehouse Company are to be congratulated.

But the most important feature of the break was the prices the tobacco brought. The prices ranged from 14 cents for scraps of the worst sort to \$2.50 per pound for a lot of fancy wrappers. There were several other lots that brought high prices. Mr. J. J. Brunson received \$2.25 for a small lot, and Mr. R. R. Tomlinson sold a lot for \$1.50. Numerous lots sold for 75, 80, 90 cents and \$1.10 per pound. The average price, taking all grades during the morning, was estimated to be about 12 1/2 cents. This was a conservative estimate, and a great many estimated the average to be higher than this figure.

The writer talked with quite a number of the buyers and several visiting warehousemen, and each and every one candidly said that the tobacco on the floor to-day was the finest average lot of tobacco they had ever seen in a warehouse at one time either in South Carolina or elsewhere. It is not to be supposed that warehousemen would say complimentary things about a new market unless the actual facts amply warranted them.

The finest tobacco grown in South Carolina is within Sumter's territory and it is safe to say that Sumter will become the market for fine grades of tobacco, and buyers who want fine tobacco will come here to get it.

Much more could be said about the "break", in fact the subject has been but hurriedly touched in a hasty manner, but enough has been said to substantiate all that has been said in the past in favor of establishing a tobacco warehouse. The fact has been demonstrated that a warehouse was a necessity to Sumter; all that remains is for the Warehouse Company to prove to tobacco growers of this and adjoining counties that it is both a benefit and a necessity to them.

Among the buyers and warehousemen from other places who were present to-day were: G. W. Gasney, B. T. Jones, Jr., Walter Watson, J. G. Lea, J. W. Wilson, J. A. Ragin, E. L. Swain, B. W. Franklin, B. Bowles, R. O. Walker, of Danville, Va., J. N. Gorman, E. C. Matthews, P. C. Pleasant, S. H. Shelborne, of Richmond, Va., G. H. Hill, of Winston, N. C., N. C. Gregory, W. A. Bolden, Roxboro, N. C., W. A. Davis, Lynchburg, Va., W. L. Cooper, Durham, N. C. There were a number of others on the floor but in the rush it was impossible to obtain a complete list.

From The Daily Item, August 30.

The second day's sale at the Tobacco Warehouse proved as successful as the "break" yesterday. There was fully as much tobacco on the floor this morning when the sale began as there was yesterday morning, and there was as much more ready to be put on the floor. From the way tobacco is coming in it looks as if the warehouse is not half large enough to meet the demands made on it by the planters who wish to sell here. The greater part of the tobacco sold here yesterday and to-day was grown in the Pudding Swamp section, and it was on an average good tobacco—and much of it fine. The

grades of good tobacco predominating were wrappers, cutters, and smokers and the prices paid ranged from 9 cents up to fancy prices for the best grades of wrappers. The lower grades, lugs and badly cured and damaged tobacco sold well and brought excellent prices considering the tobacco. The prices ranged from 4 cents to 8 1/2. There was a market for even the scraps and trash that, if appearances count for anything, were not worth anything. Auctioneer Meacham had no assistance to-day, although he needed it fully as much as he did yesterday. He had a hard day's work, but was equal to the task. He kept the buyers bustling to keep up with him as he knocked down one pile after another. The aggregate sales this morning amounted to about 30,000 pounds, perhaps more, and the piles were generally larger than yesterday. The sale will continue to-morrow and every day as long as the season continues.

Both buyers and tobacco growers have told the writer that the prices obtained for tobacco in Sumter have been better on an average than at any other market in the State. A case in point was a gentleman from lower Salem. He divided his tobacco after it was graded, into two parts and carried half to Darlington last week. There he obtained prices that averaged 6 1/2 cents. The other half he sold here yesterday, realizing an average price of 11 1/2 cents.

## News of the Landing of an Important Expedition in Cuba.

New York, Aug. 29.—There was an unusual stir to-day about the headquarters of the Cuban insurgents in this city, when it was announced that the New York agents had just received word of the successful landing of one of the most important filibustering expeditions that has been fitted during the present war. The news received was meagre, but it is said that the leaders in this city knew of the expedition and all the details. The Cuban leaders here say the expedition in question left Philadelphia on August 21, and the landing was made in Cuba four days later. The vessel used was in charge of Capt. Francisco Sanchez Echevarria, it is said.

The expedition cleared from Philadelphia on the day named. Her clearing papers stated that she carried a general cargo of merchandise and was bound for Cuban ports. The vessel, it is said, carried five field pieces, two howitzers, 3,000 rifles and 200,000 rounds of ammunition.

There were only fifty men in the party, but a great quantity of medicine and field apparatus was taken and the insurgents stand more in need of this to-day than in the need of men. The story is that a landing was made at Aguadores, Province of Santiago de Cuba. This is a lonely spot on the eastern coast and quite near to where Gen. Maceo's army is encamped. The idea of the expedition was to reach Maceo. Senor Estrada Palma, the delegate of the Cuban revolutionary party in America looks upon this as one of the great achievements of the war. He says that if only arms and ammunition can be passed through to the insurgents that the end will soon come. He says that both sides are waiting and that Gen. Campos' army is being thinned daily by yellow fever, and that the Spanish government cannot help him any further.

## Ransom all Right Again.

WASHINGTON, August 29.—The Hon. Matt W. Ransom arrived in Washington last night. Bright and early this morning he appeared at the State department, where he took the oath of office before a notary public, enabling him to resume the duties of the Mexican mission. Mr. Ransom's suspended salary will be resumed from the date of his oath. He will remain in Washington a day or two and then go to North Carolina whence he will take his departure for Mexico a week or ten days later. A rumor was current about the department to-day that Mr. Ransom's physicians had advised him not to return to Mexico, but the minister stated to a reporter that this was untrue. He expected, he said, to go to Mexico this time in better physical condition than he was last spring and that he would experience no ill effects from his stay there. The story probably had its origin in the fact that Dr. Bray, superintendent of the American Hospital in Mexico, who attended the late minister Gray in his last illness and who was called in by Mr. Ransom, advised the State department that Mr. Ransom could not stand the climate of that place. Dr. Biff, surgeon general of the Mexico Central Railroad, who also attended the minister, differed from Dr. Bray and he told Mr. Ransom that if he would return to the United States and recover his health he could then go to Mexico with the assurance of maintaining his health as well as any one.

It was learned to-day that when the question of Mr. Ransom's right to hold the office of minister to Mexico was raised in the treasury department he forwarded his resignation to the President in order that the latter might not be embarrassed. It is understood that both the President and Mr. Ransom believed that the appointment as minister to Mexico was not completed till the latter accepted the position and qualified, which was not done till after his term as Senator expired. The fact that Mr. Ransom resigned the office disposes of all speculation as to the manner of payments of his salary from July 1 to August 21, the date of his reappointment. It will not be paid at all.

## Our Woman's Room.

### Appointments of Lady County Managers for the Exposition.

Below is given a list of the women in every county seat of the State who have been appointed by the chairman of the South Carolina Woman's room at the exposition, to take charge of the collection and forwarding of exhibits from their county to that room. Tags will be furnished them with which to label the boxes and insure their free transportation to the Woman's building at Atlanta. All women having exhibits to send will please confer with their county agent, who will receive and forward the exhibits.

Abbeville—Miss Mary Hemphill. Aiken—Mrs. Eliza Legare. Anderson—Mrs. P. K. McCully. Barrow—Miss Hattie Manville. Beaufort—Mrs. Waterhouse. Berkeley—Mrs. S. Porcher Smith, Mt. Pleasant.

Charleston—Mrs. Thos. S. Heyward. Savage street; Mrs. Sam'l Wragg, Legare street.

Colleton—Mrs. Allen Izard, Walterboro.

Clarendon—Mrs. Abe Levi, Manning.

Chesterfield—Miss Harden, Cheraw.

Chester—Mrs. Paul Hemphill.

Darlington—Mrs. F. C. Norment.

Edgefield—Mrs. J. E. Bacon.

Fairfield—Mrs. Ulysses DesPortes.

Florence—Mrs. T. P. Kershaw.

Georgetown—Miss Fraser.

Greenville—Mrs. Wm. Wilkins, Jr.

Hampton—Mrs. Geo. Moore.

Horry—Mrs. C. P. Quantlebaum.

Kershaw—Miss Emma Reynolds, Camden.

Laurens—Mrs. J. W. Ferguson.

Lancaster—Mrs. Nat. Chafee.

Lexington—Mrs. W. W. Roof.

Marion—Mrs. C. A. Wood.

Marlboro—Miss Breeden, Bennettsville.

Newberry—Mrs. Nat. Gist.

Oconee—Mrs. Senator Stribling, Seneca.

Pickens—Mrs. J. E. Boggs.

Orangeburg—Mrs. Mort Dantzer.

Richland—Miss Earle, Miss Lynch.

Sumter—Mrs. John Kershaw.

Union—Mrs. M. F. Seale.

Williamsburg—Mrs. G. P. Allen, Kingstree.

Yorkville—Mrs. B. N. Moore.

Rock Hill—Mrs. Sam'l Reid.

It is hoped the women of the State will now make ready and ship to the Woman's room their exhibits of skill in the various departments of art and woman's work.

All the papers in the State are requested by the lady management to copy this list at once.

## Bacon's Gentle Irony.

Old Edgefield has some 1,250 or 1,350 square miles. Very soon, however, from present appearances, she will scarcely have the constitutional 600 left. Greenwood, Saluda, Batesburg, Ninety Six, McCormick and Tasmania, in the island of Madagascar, are all applying for portions of her territory. It seems that Greenwood and Saluda have held a conference at Good Hope, and agreed harmoniously upon their lines. Good Hope is to be in Saluda. It now remains for Batesburg, Ninety Six, McCormick and Tasmania to hold a conference. And in the meantime, in the Constitutional Convention, Uncle George Tillman will have the county area cut down to 50 square miles.

Well, small counties, like woman's suffrage, are so surely coming, that no very sensible man will trouble himself to kick against them. We do not kick. In these wild days in Edgefield, a man can scarcely keep his home lines intact, let alone his county lines.

Who knows but that our old Court House may be absorbed by Tamania?—Edgefield Chronicle.

## Pleasant Prospect for Heavy Weight Sluggers.

AUSTIN, Tex., Aug.—Attorney General Crane this morning handed down his opinion in the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fighting case in reply to an interrogatory of Sheriff Cabell, of Dallas county, as to whether he had any legal right to shoot down people while attempting to suppress the fight. The attorney general's reply is to the effect that the prize fighters, referees etc. constitute an unlawful assemblage and the statutes of the State make special provisions for the disbandment of such unlawful assemblages; that the sheriff is empowered to summon a posse or even the militia to his aid and arrest in case the fighters will not cease their unlawful conduct; that the statutes especially provide that homicide is justifiable when absolutely necessary to suppress riot or unlawful gatherings. The attorney general concludes his opinion by saying that while he does not believe it necessary, still if it is necessary, the statutes provide that the sheriff can use firearms in disbanding any unlawful assemblage.

The contractor for the Port Royal Dry Dock has been notified by Acting U. S. Secretary McAdoo of the Navy Department that the gates to the dock must be made stronger before he can get his money.

The Iron Age publishes a table showing that since the close of 1894 Bessemer pig has advanced from less than \$10 a ton to nearly \$14.50, and steel billets from \$15 or less to \$21.50. Wire nails have gone up from 95 cents to \$2.05, and cut nails from 75 cents to \$1.80. Proportional advances are reported in other iron and steel products. No wonder the manufacturers are talking of a "boom."



## Best For the Blood

Hood's Proved Its Merit—Eczema Cured.

"I have used Hood's Sarsaparilla and know it is the best medicine for the blood I have ever taken. Two years ago I had a sore on one of my limbs below the knee."

I Spent Many Dollars

for medical attendance and treatment but all in vain. At last a friend urged me to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. I told him it would not do me any good as I had the best of doctors in this vicinity attend me and they said it was a severe case of eczema. He prevailed upon me, however, to take one bottle and when it was all

taken I noted a slight improvement. I have now used six bottles and my leg is well. Had it not been for Hood's Sarsaparilla I do not think I would ever have recovered my complaint." J. W. HINDMAN, Fort Lawn, S. C.

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Aug. 21.

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Bees Wax,	25 c per lb

Wool, White, Free of Burs and Sand,	13 to 14 c per lb
Wool, Black, no Burs and Sand,	10 to 11 c per lb
Sheep Skins,	10 to 50 c each

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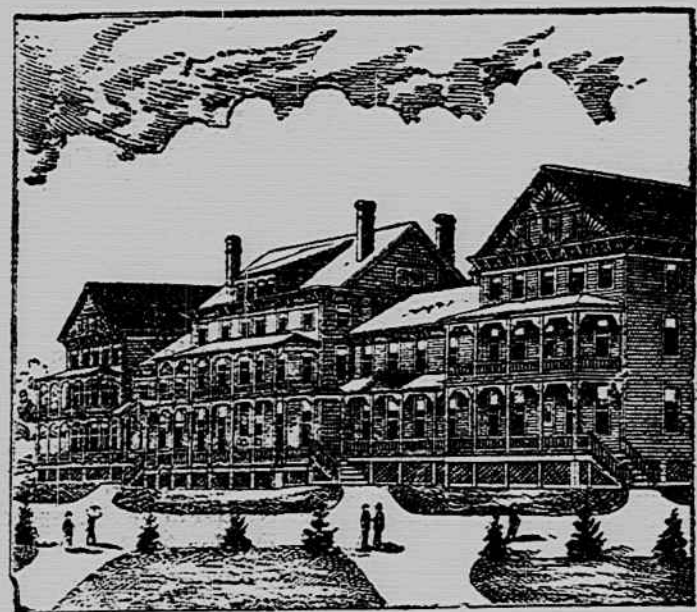
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